



Karen Gahl-Mills
Executive Director, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture

Karen Gahl-Mills was named Executive Director of Cuyahoga Arts & Culture in November, 2009. Under her leadership, the six-year old agency remains one of the nation's top sources of local public funding for arts and culture. In total, CAC has granted over \$95 million dollars to more than 200 local arts organizations throughout Cuyahoga County.

Karen's career began in Los Angeles where she worked as part of a team creating national and international advertising for many well-known global brands. Her work then led her to Chicago and back to her roots as a musician, first as a development officer for the celebrated Ravinia Festival, summer home to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and then as Managing Director of The Rhythm Cafe, an advertising music production company. Karen went on to serve as executive director of the Westchester Philharmonic and then as President and Executive Director of the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra.

Karen holds a Bachelor of Music degree from DePaul University and an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

League of American Orchestras



Hollis Headrick
Principal, Arts and Cultural Strategies

Hollis Headrick is a consultant for arts, education and philanthropic organizations focusing on program development and strategic planning. His clients have included the Arts Education Partnership, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Chamber Music America, League of American Orchestras, Music National Service, New York Community Trust, NYC Department of Education, The Wallace Foundation, and Washington State Arts Commission.

From 2003-06 he was the director of the Weill Music Institute at Carnegie Hall. He was the founding executive director of the Center for Arts Education from 1996-2003, which received the New York Governor's Arts Award. He was director of the Arts in Education Program, New York State Council on the Arts, from 1990-96.

Hollis has served on panels at the National Endowment for the Arts, Dana Foundation and has lectured at MIT and Teachers College. He received a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Missouri, and studied percussion at the Berklee College of Music and New England Conservatory. Hollis has performed at the Public Theater and Lincoln Center and is a member of the Recording Academy, which produces the Grammy Awards. Hollis received the Arts Management Excellence Award from the Arts and Business Council in 2002.